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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/391,781	09/08/1999	GEORGE W. PALMER	99CR107/KE	9067

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EXAMINER

HAILU, TADESSE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2173

DATE MAILED: 01/02/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/391,781

Applicant(s)
George W. Palmer et al.

Examiner
Tadesse Hailu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Oct 3, 2003
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6-12, 14, 17, 18, 21, and 22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6-12, 14, 17, 18, 21, and 22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____ 6) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to the Appeal Brief entered 10/3/2003.
2. The Applicant's arguments filed 10/3/2003 during the Appeal Brief have been fully considered and they are persuasive. Thus, Prosecution of the case is hereby reopened.
3. The pending claims 1-4, 6-12, 14, 17, 18, 21 and 22 are examined as follows:.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-4, 6-12, 14, 17, 18, 21 and 22 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Briffe et al (6,112,141) in view of Brunts et al (US 5,964,821).

Briffe et al ("Briffe") relates generally to aircraft flight information and control system which permit simplified flight planning and navigation procedures, reduced cost, reduced pilot workload, and improved safety. Moreover, Briffe relates to an improved graphical oriented aircraft display and control interface. Briffe reads over the present claimed invention as follows:

With regard to claim 1:

Briffe discloses an avionics system (Fig. 2). The system includes an avionics radio receiver (Fig. 2, #71); the system also includes a plurality of displays (16, 18, 20, and 22)

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coupled to said avionics receiver (71) (see Fig. 2); the system further includes an pedestal (14) (or operational system), coupled to said displays (Fig. 1, #14); the displays further includes a GUI (see Figs. 3, 5, 7, 9, etc) and a displayed cursor (21) to manipulate the displayed items (see Figs. 21, 22, 23, etc).

However, Briffe does not disclose a graphical user interface returns to a pre-existing display, without user input, upon a passage of time. Brunts discloses a navigation system for offering navigational assistance to a mobile device user. The system of Brunts also describes the above claimed limitation, that is, automatic time out (without the user input) feature which returns to the previous display (column 17, lines 48-column 18, lines 3). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use an automatic time out feature in place of manual input in order to return to the previous display. Thus, having the automatic time out feature in navigation system function will help the pilot not to be occupied manually inputting interacting with the display.

Furthermore, it is well settled that it is not "invention" to broadly provide a mechanical or automatic means to replace manual activity which has accomplished the same result. In re Rundell, 18 CCPA 1290, 48 F.2d 958, 9 USPQ 220.

With regard to claim 2:

Briffe in view of Brunts discloses pedestal (14) which includes a plurality of pilot controls, such as switch (38), keyboard (34), trackballs (44), etc. are used to manipulate data in a navigational system (Briffe, col 5, lines 21-61).

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With regard to claim 3:

Briffe in view of Brunts discloses a plurality of multi-function displays (Briffe, Fig. 1, #18, and #20).

With regard to claim 4:

Briffe in view of Brunts discloses a communication radio receiver (Briffe, col 7, lines 41-46).

With regard to claims 6 and 11:

Briffe in view of Brunts discloses a GUI wherein the GUI includes a simultaneous window display, such as a simultaneous COM 1 and COM 2 radio frequency display (Briffe, Fig. 17-20, col 20, lines 34-48).

With regard to claims 7 and 12:

Briffe in view of Brunts discloses manually controlled (pedestal 14) interface. The GUI shown in Fig. 17-20 includes interactive controls, manually controlled push-button (504), rotary knob (506) swapping button (508). Activation of these controls invoke a predetermined screen display, such as activating button 504 of Fig. 17 results Fig. 18. ("a predetermined relationship") (Briffe, col 23, lines 29-61, col 39, lines 52-63, col 45, lines 41-45).

With regard to claim 8:

Briffe in view of Brunts discloses a unit of display located above each MFD 18, 20, and includes a screen (502), may be a touch-sensitive screen, interacting with the screen displays

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screen (502) in a pop-up or expanded view of a page or device managed (Briffe, Fig. 17, col 23, lines 29-67).

With regard to claim 9:

As indicated in the rejection to claim 1, Briffe discloses an avionics system (Fig. 2). The system includes an avionics radio receiver (Fig. 2, #71); the system also includes a plurality of displays (16, 18, 20, and 22) coupled to said avionics receiver (71) (see Fig. 2); the displays further includes a GUI (see Figs. 3, 5, 7, 9, etc) and a displayed cursor (21) to manipulate the displayed items (Briffe, Figs. 21, 22, 23, etc); Briffe's GUI provides an expanded view of a page or device managed (Briffe, Fig. 17, col 23, lines 29-67).

However, Briffe does not disclose a graphical user interface returns to a pre-existing display, without user input, upon a passage of time. Brunts discloses a navigation system for offering navigational assistance to a mobile device user. The system of Brunts also describes the above claimed limitation, that is, automatic time out (without the user input) feature which returns to the previous display (Bruns, column 17, lines 48-column 18, lines 3). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use an automatic time out feature in place of manual input in order to return to the previous display. Thus, having the automatic time out feature in navigation system function will help the pilot not to be occupied manually inputting interacting with the display.

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Furthermore, it is well settled that it is not “invention” to broadly provide a mechanical or automatic means to replace manual activity which has accomplished the same result. In re Rundell, 18 CCPA 1290, 48 F.2d 958, 9 USPQ 220.

With regard to claim 10:

Briffe in view of Brunts discloses a GUI returning to a pre-existing display upon a passage of time (Bruns, column 17, lines 48-column 18, lines 3).

With regard to claim 14:

As indicated in the rejection to claim 1, Briffe discloses an avionics system (Fig. 2). The system includes an avionics radio receiver (Fig. 2, #71); the system also includes a plurality of displays (16, 18, 20, and 22) coupled to said avionics receiver (71) (see Fig. 2); the displays further includes a displayed cursor (21) and GUI for graphically manipulating a plurality of managed devices, such as a radio signals (Briffe, Figs. 3, 5, 7, 9, 21, 22, 23, etc). The system of Briffe discloses a GUI wherein the GUI includes a simultaneous window display, such as a simultaneous COM 1 and COM 2 radio frequency display under screen (502) (Briffe, col 20, lines 34-48).

However, Briffe does not disclose a graphically coupling returning to a pre-existing display, without user input, upon a passage of time. Brunts discloses a navigation system for offering navigational assistance to a mobile device user. The system of Brunts also describes the above claimed limitation, that is, automatic time out (without the user input) feature which returns to the previous display (Bruns, column 17, lines 48-column 18, lines 3). Therefore, it

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would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use an automatic time out feature in place of manual input in order to return to the previous display. Thus, having the automatic time out feature in navigation system function will help the pilot not to be occupied manually inputting or interacting with the display.

Furthermore, it is well settled that it is not "invention" to broadly provide a mechanical or automatic means to replace manual activity which has accomplished the same result. In re Rundell, 18 CCPA 1290, 48 F.2d 958, 9 USPQ 220.

With regard to claim 17:

Briffe in view of Brunts discloses pedestal (14) (or operational system), coupled to said displays (16, 18, 20, and 22) for manipulating managed devices or pages (Briffe, col 5, lines 21-61).

With regard to claim 18:

Briffe in view of Brunts discloses a unit of display located above each MFD 18, 20, and includes a screen (502), may be a touch-sensitive screen, interacting with the screen displays screen (502) in a pop-up or expanded view of a page or device managed (Briffe, Fig. 17, col 23, lines 29-67).

With regard to claim 21:

Briffe discloses an avionics radio receiver and a display coupled to said avionics receiver (fig. 2). Briffe also discloses manually controlled (pedestal 14) interface. The GUI shown in Fig. 17-20 includes interactive controls, manually controlled push-button (504), rotary knob

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(506) swapping button (508). Activation of these controls invoke a predetermined screen display, such as activating button 504 of Fig. 17 results Fig. 18. ("a predetermined relationship") (Briffe, col 23, lines 29-61, col 39, lines 52-63, col 45, lines 41-45). The displays further includes a GUI (see Figs. 3, 5, 7, 9, etc) and a displayed cursor (21) to manipulate the displayed items (see Figs. 21, 22, 23, etc).

However, Briffe does not disclose a graphically coupling returning to a pre-existing display, without user input, upon a passage of time. Brunts discloses a navigation system for offering navigational assistance to a mobile device user. The system of Brunts also describes the above claimed limitation, that is, automatic time out (without the user input) feature which returns to the previous display (Bruns, column 17, lines 48-column 18, lines 3). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use an automatic time out feature in place of manual input in order to return to the previous display. Thus, having the automatic time out feature in navigation system function will help the pilot not to be occupied manually inputting or interacting with the display.

Furthermore, it is well settled that it is not "invention" to broadly provide a mechanical or automatic means to replace manual activity which has accomplished the same result. In re Rundell, 18 CCPA 1290, 48 F.2d 958, 9 USPQ 220.

With regard to claim 22:

Briffe in view of Brunts discloses a unit of display located above each MFD 18, 20, and includes a screen (502), may be a touch-sensitive screen, interacting with the screen displays

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screen (502) in a pop-up or expanded view of a page or device managed (Briffe, Fig. 17, col 23, lines 29-67).

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-4, 6-12, 14, 17, 18, and 21-22 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

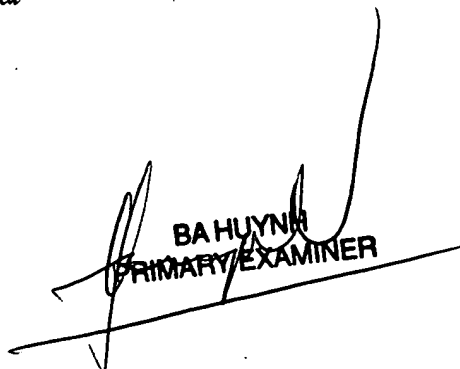
Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to *Tadesse Hailu*, whose telephone number is (703) 306-2799. The Examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 10:00 - 7:30 ET. If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, *John Cabeca*, can be reached at (703) 308-3116 Art Unit 2173 CPK 2-4A51

8. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Tadesse Hailu

12/23/ 2003


BA HUYNH
PRIMARY EXAMINER